

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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New York Representative, SMITH-WILBERDING SPECIAL AGENTS, Tribune Building.
Chicago Representative, CHARLES A. BARNARD, Beyer Building.
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1909.

Gov. Hughes' Inaugural.
Gov. Hughes' reputation as a political educator is further enhanced by his inaugural address, a brief utterance full of sound political doctrine, and breathing a high spirit of patriotism and devotion to public duty. It is devoted mainly to an exposition of the functions of a State government, and of the respective relations thereto of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments. The powers exercised by these departments cannot be separated with logical exactness, says the governor, for the courts sometimes perform administrative functions, and the executive has an important role to perform in legislation. Gov. Hughes rather emphasizes this role, for he has been most severely criticised for his zeal in behalf of legislative measures, the opponents of which think he went beyond the legitimate exercise of his authority in going over the heads of the legislature to the people. But the governor shows that the veto power contemplates that the executive shall pass judgment upon all legislation, and that his judgment shall finally control unless opposed by two-thirds of the membership of the legislature. Yet it is not his "constitutional function to attempt by use of patronage or by bargaining with respect to bills, to secure the passage of measures he approves." But it is his prerogative to recommend legislation, to state reasons for his recommendation, and it is his "privilege to justify his position to the people to whom he is accountable." In this way the executive encourages the sway of intelligent public opinion over the various operations of the government.
It is evident that Gov. Hughes has no intention of departing from his policy of direct appeal to the people for the support of such legislative measures as he recommends. Notwithstanding the cheap cry of executive usurpation raised against that method, it is, after all, a democratic method. It is a way of giving effect to the popular voice that is one of the most conspicuous features of our striving for better government. All over the country strong executives are fighting the battle of the people against corruption entrenched in legislatures and municipal councils. It is Roosevelt's way; it is going to be Taft's way, as he has very promptly and emphatically shown. It is the way of La Follette, and Folk, and Johnson, and even in corrupted Pittsburgh there is, fortunately, an incorruptible mayor about whom the better elements of citizenship may rally to clean up a disreputable popular assembly.
Everywhere the people turn instinctively to the executive rather than the legislative branch for true representation of their will and their aspirations. If there are any who think this tendency is going too far, that the undue exaltation of the executive tends toward imperialism or autocracy, let them urge upon the people the importance of maintaining a higher standard of legislative capacity, of freeing popular assemblies from the domination of bosses and political machines, and of restoring to them their proper force and authority as legislative bodies truly representative of the people.
We have no doubt Gov. Hughes would much prefer to work with an assembly of patriotic and intelligent men devoted solely to the public weal. Mr. Taft, likewise, would be happier if it were not necessary to threaten, cajole, and dicker with the two Houses of Congress in order to effect the execution of a plain popular mandate. It is up to the people to make our legislative bodies once more instruments of partisan aggrandizement or tools of corporate interests.

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Like chains, New Year's resolutions are only as strong as their weakest links.

Says the Buffalo News:

"Angus, G. A. knows his meat all right, all right! Other municipalities have endorsed slummy linings to Angus, but Angus presumes a barbecue. Something better, as it were."

It is gratifying to find that, if intended for a joke, its author knows not whereof he speaks, for his heart ever so kind and his motives ever so worthy.

Unless evil days have fallen upon Georgia, the barbecue tendered the President-elect was one of those wonderful things more daintily and delightfully strange than all the strange things in heaven or earth ever dreamed of in Horatio's poor philosophy. A Georgia barbecue is a Georgia barbecue; there is nothing else it can be likened to. Its fame far surpasses all the renown of its near neighbors in this regard, indeed. For, as good as they may be, and as they probably are, nobody outside of the States named ever heard of an Alabama barbecue, or a Florida barbecue, or a Tennessee barbecue!

Mr. Taft will live long, we hope, and prosper much in every wise, but we suspect he will never regale the inner man with anything more to his taste than that piece of brown and tender barbecued lamb he partook of on the occasion herein considered. It was, we firmly believe, carved-lacked out with a hatch-

et, really—from that sacred section amid-

ships, just so far from the hind quarter and just so far from the shoulder; precisely and exactly there. This zenith of the day's gustatory ecstasy may have been preceded by a portion of Brunswick stew, though not necessarily so. It may have been followed by a glass or two of beer, though not necessarily so.

Tradition has it that this latter feature has been suspended once or twice, of course; and it may have been at this time, in view of certain utterances lately emanating from the distinguished honoree. These details are neither here nor there, anyway; it is about the savory viands that our interest centers and most strenuously concerns itself.

Nowhere—South does the democracy of good-fellowship turn itself loose so completely as about the barbecue pit. Every participant is his fellow-participant's peer. There is no intrusion of rank and station; no pomp and circumstance of power. Restraint is cast to the winds, and everybody says just what he thinks, in whatever way he wants to, without the slightest fear that he will be called down, quoted to his discomfort afterward, or in any manner subsequently embarrassed whatsoever. In fact, if he says anything he ought not to have said, and it bobs up to frighten him next day, he may depend upon any number of stanch auditors swearing until they are black in the face that he never said anything of the kind, if such testimony seems needful or desirable.

The only thing that beats a Georgia barbecue is another Georgia barbecue, and it is admitted that every one is a little better than its immediate predecessor.

Castro is reported to have \$20,000,000 in his possession. Good-by, Venezuela; take care of yourself!

Getting Out of Cuba.

Once more we are engaged in the task of moving out of Cuba. The movement began with New Year's Day, and from now on for some weeks the American soldiers who have been garrisoning the island will be moving homeward, so that it is hoped that the evacuation will be completed by January 28, on which date the new Cuban government is to be inaugurated. The official date of the evacuation, however, is January 1—for that was what we promised the Cubans. Let us hope that there need never be a return.

The whole of our task in Cuba has been a self-imposed one and a costly one, and no American citizen but must rejoice that for a time at least—let us hope it is forever—that task is over. The burden fell upon us following the Spanish-American war, when we had to take charge to assure a measure of order and tranquility until the Cubans could organize their own government. When that time came, we withdrew our troops, but written in the constitution of the new-born Cuban republic was a clause providing that we had a right to intervene whenever the island republic should find itself powerless to enforce the laws or to maintain order.

Two years we left Cuba alone to try and work out her own salvation, and then, with that tendency toward revolt against the established order of things which is characteristic of the Latin nations, we saw the Palma administration go to pieces, and, lest worse befall, we had to send the troops back.

Bit by bit order has been restored once more. A political campaign has been conducted, and President Gomez, the representative of the Liberal party, has been elected President. The inauguration of President Gomez will mark the change from military to civil rule.

What is the future to be? It rests entirely in the hands of the Cubans themselves. They know now that, though we are withdrawing our troops, we retain the right to send them back there, and that we, as self-appointed guardians of the little republic, and in a measure responsible to the world for its conduct, cannot tolerate disorder or lawlessness. We have no desire as a nation but to see Cuba peaceful, prosperous, useful, and happy. It shall be so, even if we have to force these benefits upon it. But let us hope that the Cubans have learned their lesson. Let us trust that they are resolved now to demonstrate to the world their capacity for self-government, their ability to take care of themselves. Nothing is further from our desire than to have to send troops to Cuba every year or two to insure order and to protect lives and property.

We are getting out of Cuba in the hope that the baby republic has learned to walk alone, and that it will keep out of mischief.

We believe it will be admitted, nevertheless, that contempt of court comes high.

Dishonest Advertising.

"Recent publishers cannot afford to publish a dishonest advertisement in their papers. To do so is to become a party to a fraud and to destroy the faith of their readers in advertising."—Fourth Estate.

So true is this that the saying of it may naturally cause wonder. Why should the Fourth Estate, which deals exclusively with the affairs of newspaperdom, feel called upon to proclaim that manifest truism?

The explanation is simple. Newspapers throughout the country—usually one, at least, in every community—think they can afford to publish dishonest advertising and "become a party to a fraud." Such newspapers feel no moral obligation to their readers in the premises, but enter readily into the schemes to victimize them by exploiting frauds and fakers—for pay.

Once the faith of the reading public is destroyed in advertising, then the honest advertiser suffers.

It is the newspapers that scrutinize their advertising columns, as well as their editorial and news columns, and thus keep faith with their readers—newspapers like The Washington Herald, that rigidly exclude dishonest advertising—that are really the mediums worth while for the legitimate advertiser.

The Houston Post says Texas "will sit on the suffragettes for all." We don't think that would be fair at all.

For itself, The Washington Herald acknowledges receipt of the good wishes

of the Atlanta Georgian for the new year, and thanks the Georgian for its courtesy and thoughtfulness. And the same to it!

The Suicides.

Of all purely ethical and personal questions there are few that have caused more difference of opinion than the question of suicide. From the religious standpoint there is, of course, no room for argument, nor is there from the legal standpoint, for the lawmakers have decided that the man who tries to kill himself and fails has been guilty of an offense against the laws. But it would seem that neither of these viewpoints affects deeply the individual bent upon self-destruction. Once resolved to travel to that "bourn from which no traveler returns," religious, ethical, and legal viewpoints are disregarded.

There have been few more striking cases of suicide than that of Prof. and Mrs. J. P. Gordy, of the New York University, who killed themselves because of the untimely death of their daughter. The grief engendered by the loss was too hard for them to bear, and they at once decided that it was better—

"To take arms against a sea of troubles, And by opposing end them."

The case is the more grievous because of the standing of this man and woman who chose, for even such a cause, to "shuffle off this mortal coil." Prof. Gordy was only in the prime of life, fifty-seven years old. His life work lay before him, and he had fitted himself by long years of study for that work. Books he had written were cited as authority; his education had been culled from both Europe and America. He had done loyal service as an educator in Ohio; he was engaged, at the time of his trouble, in the noble occupation of teaching teachers how to educate the young.

And yet all of his education and culture, the possession of a good position, the companionship of a helpful wife, the respect and honor of his associates were not sufficient to stay his hand, and the example he has set in his tragic taking-off will, in all probability, more than offset all the good that before his trouble came upon him, he set out to do.

No one willingly speaks harsh words about the dead. But surely it is not unkind to take a lesson from this tragic occurrence. It is not unfair, surely, to point out that one of the highest duties of a man is to live up to his opportunities. It is not true that any one of us may live or die wholly to ourselves. There is an obligation between a man and the God who made him, for God alone may know how severely a man is tried; but there is an obligation, also, between man and his fellow-man, and upon us all lies the duty of fulfilling our obligation. For the poor, uneducated man, the man who cannot, by virtue of birth, breeding, or education, understand the meaning of noble obligation, we can have nothing but pity, if, in "the fell clutch of circumstance," he so mistakes the purposes of God as to take the question of life or death into his own hands. But what can we say about the man who has won up to the place of teacher of the people, the man who has won his spurs; the man who, armed with the strength of his fellow-men's love and respect, weakens at the hour of trial, fails to keep the faith, and refuses to face with manly courage and high determination the fate that is in store?

Sad and pathetic as this case of double suicide is, it serves to emphasize once more how utterly selfish and cowardly it is for a man to fly the battle of life, to quit the field vanquished, when he should be a victor. It is only through life and the opportunities of life that it is given us to express the purposes of God. If we fail Him, then are we cowards indeed.

A gentleman from the far Southwest thinks Mr. Bryan's fame will far outlive Mr. Roosevelt's. To the Annapolis Club with him!

The State of Florida is finding the oasis business the greatest and most profitable game of its life. It seems.

The new President of Venezuela is going to be hard put in his effort to make a name as enduring as his illustrious predecessor.

In ruling that Mr. Harriman need not talk unless he wants to, the Supreme Court doubtless decided it was wise to make a virtue of necessity.

Mr. Pickett, a Colorado editor, announces that he will stick to the fence, politically. He recognizes the eternal fitness of things, evidently.

If Mr. Taft has not yet found a hard nut to crack, he is a hard nut to please. Every possible combination has been suggested.

Well? Can you write it 1909 in less than three trials now?

The returns from various Christmas trees indicate the gratifying fact that cotton-betting whippers for Santa Claus have gone out of style, to a certain extent, anyway.

"1909, you're looking fine," sings Mr. "Drift" Armstrong in the Montgomery Advertiser. Sure, he is; he's right in line!

Yes, indeed! It does seem that the management might provide cushions for the water wagon seats.

"Have we forgotten how to shoot?" inquires the Port Worth Record. No, sir; and we don't intend to until after March 4.

If "Major" Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., will get in line and visit Mr. Taft in Georgia, he will promptly be promoted to be a colonel.

Ladies, don't get mad or weep if your husband does not evidence an inclination to wear that Christmas necktie every time he goes out. He may desire to save it for special occasions, you know.

"Schwab and I were a great team," says Mr. Carnegie. With the accent on the "I," too!

"Birmingham, Ga.," says the Milwaukee Sentinel. Police!

The mere fact that turkeys sold for \$50 each in 1862 is no excuse for present-day prices.

Mr. Thomas Collier Platt is writing a book, and yet his bitterest enemy has probably never wished he would.

When Congress is called to order after its holiday recess, it will hear something to its disadvantage, if report be true.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

A PERFECT CINCH.
The poet tribe should not repine About the good year 1909.

For it were easy, I divine, To find a rhyme for 1909.

A bard may reel off line on line Upon the theme of 1909.

I want no better snap for mine. Than such a year as 1909.

And other bards will doubtless sign A vote of thanks to 1909.

It Sure Does.
"What did you give your boy for Christmas?"

"A toy automobile. He's already killed six chickens and a dog."

"Call that a toy? That looks like the real thing."

A Mirish Merger.
"I see Mark Twain has had himself incorporated."

"Yes. Now I s'pose we'll have a humor trust."

The Mysterious School.
"You describe your hero," commented the editor, "as being porphyrogenic."

"Well," demanded the poet, "what's the matter with that?"

"I must confess that I don't know what porphyrogenic means."

"Nor will any one else," retorted the bard triumphantly, "without digging up a dictionary. I didn't expect this from you. I thought you understood the requirements of modern magazine verse."

A Trifle Early.
I love to think about the glen, Where Blues bud;

I fain would wander there again But for the mud.

A Perfect Brute.
"John, your smoke will spoil the curtains."

"That's better than having the curtains spoil my smoke."

Highly Excrement.
"Do you think that most people nowadays worship money?"

"No. I won't go as far as that," answered the home-grown philosopher, "but I will say that the love of money is seldom platonic."

The Genial Hobo.
"So you don't know where to find work?"

"No, lady."

"Ain't looking very hard, I take it?"

"You're right. Dis is a case of where ignorance is bliss."

BUREAU OF EDUCATION.

Plea for an Extension of Its Sphere of usefulness.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

It ought to require no argument to prove to Congressmen, as a justification for a more liberal allowance for the Bureau of Education, that there is in its work a vast and almost untouched field of public usefulness. One has only to refer to the voluntary conventions of teachers, to the various associations representing the secondary and higher institutions of education, &c., to recognize the fruitful field for simplification and unification in these directions. How much greater the opportunities in connection with elementary education, which is all that comes to the vast majority of the people. The present Commissioner pointed the way to what might be done in the way of exchange of experience and information by the recent conference of State superintendents, and it is on this basis that it is making its modest request of the Congress for a larger appropriation.

LINCOLN HIGHWAY.

A Memorial Proposition that Interests Two States.

From the Philadelphia Press.

If the Federal government will consent to engage in road building at all, no better beginning could be made than the proposed road to Gettysburg. It would be a model road in every respect, wide of easy grade, well paved in the best good roads fashion and shaded with trees. It would lie in three jurisdictions—the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. It would eventually be met at Gettysburg by Pennsylvania's own system of improved roads. Maryland is also building improved roads which would tap into this memorial highway. It would connect the White House and the Gettysburg battlefield, but incidentally it would connect the National Capital with the improved roads of all the States to the north and northeast, and as eventually they will be developed, and in conjunction make a great interstate system of improved roads.

In view of the condition of the national finances at the present time, and the very large estimate for the normal expenditures of the departments, we have little expectation that this memorial highway will be provided for at the present session. It is possible that Congress may be unwilling at any time to enter upon any national highway construction, for fear of the pressure that will be brought to secure the building of roads at the national expense in other localities.

Those States that want good roads will make sure of them only by building them out of their own revenues, but the Federal government might properly, in exceptional cases, join in that good work. We know of no road construction that can be undertaken by the national government with greater propriety than this proposed Gettysburg highway in memory of the great President of the civil war, whom a reunited country agrees in honoring.

Governmental Fire Risks.

From the Boston Herald.

A San Francisco fire expert, visiting Washington, says that many of the most valuable governmental collections in Washington are at any time exposed in buildings that San Francisco would now rate as third-class risks. He has only to point to the damage wrought recently in the Geological Survey department's show the folly which Congress permits. The department, for instance, carries on its work among wooden shelving, wooden furniture, and wooden window frames.

Kissing a Chance.

From the New York World.

France, with savings of \$1,000,000,000 in a year, makes the question pertinent whether the Paris stock exchange is alive to its opportunities.

Needs Dissemination.

From the Post.

Silence is indeed golden, and the pity is public taste won't permit the phonographs to reproduce more of it.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Representative Hobbs has designed battle ships, both on paper and in his mind; other Representatives have had designs on the timid reserved for Butler Ames, of Massachusetts, to design and patent an airship, and from all accounts the name of Ames will go down in history as an inventor rather than a statesman.

Butler Ames is still this side of forty, but his career has been one of varied experience. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, but army life didn't suit him and he resigned soon after his appointment to the Eleventh United States Infantry. He finished his education with a post-graduate course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating as a mechanical and electrical engineer. Lately, he has been busy with his experiments with flying machines.

While engaged in the industrial world he devoted part of his time to military affairs as instructor of tactics to the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia.

At the outbreak of the Spanish war he joined the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, and saw active service in Cuba and Porto Rico, later becoming civil administrator of the island of Puerto Rico. After peace was declared he entered politics, was elected to common council of Lowell, then a member of the legislature for three years, and to the Fifty-eighth Congress. Since then he has been returned regularly.

The members of the Senate and House, after having spent the holidays with cheer and good things will approach the continuation of the session with many doubts and misgivings. They know that messages have been prepared, and that there are in course of preparation. With that knowledge linked "I wonder what is going to come next."

"Thank heavens, it will soon be over," remarked a senator, "after March 4 we can go on in the even tenor of our way; we can look at the main door without fear of a message from the President, and our hands can repose peacefully in our laps and not be continually warding off blows from the Big Sluggo."

Representative Burton will be missed in the House of Representatives. He is a deliberate and cool debater, and always familiar with his subject. No matter how often questioned, or how fiery the darts hurled at him, he retains his self-possession, and in his quiet but forcible way answers each one.

The loss to the House will be a great gain to the Senate, and the bachelor from Cleveland will be a power in that body. His opinions will be sought by the Republican leaders, and his committee assignments will be the best. His record as chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors has been of the variety, and Uncle Joe will have no easy task to fill the place with as strong a man.

Charley Landis, of Indiana, in addition to his good looks and winning ways, is endowed with the requisite amount of blarney essential to a successful newspaper editor.

Some years ago he was editor of the Locustport Journal. He had written a bitter editorial about one of his fellow-townsmen, who took exception to the language used, and sought the editor in his den. Landis saw him coming, knew what the man was there for, and, with fear and trembling, received the irate visitor. While the subject of the editorial was frothing at the mouth and giving vent to his injured feelings, young Landis was thinking how he could get rid of him and be in comfort to report for dinner. When the abused man had finished and dropped in a chair from exhaustion, Charley had figured out his plan of campaign.

"See here," said he. "You remember Seth Allen, who was hanged last year? You remember how the people hunted him for days, and finally catching him, strung him up?"

"Yes," answered the man.

"Well," continued Landis, seeing he was getting there, "people are murdering about you, and there is no telling what will happen when they get hold of you."

"The bluff worked, the lion was tamed, and bowed himself out of the presence of the editor, apologizing profusely for his abuse. Landis was saved, and is here to tell the tale, but his curly gray locks will be missing next session.

Representative Chaney, of Indiana, will not return to the Sixty-first Congress. He fell by the wayside with many others of his Indiana brethren at the last election, but he is working overtime getting in bills, and up to the present time has introduced no less than forty-five, all of them to increase the pensions of old soldiers. Pleasant T. Chapman, from the neighboring State of Illinois, has likewise been on his job, and has introduced seventeen bills for the same purpose. Representative Chapman was re-elected, and before he gets through, if any old soldier in his district is missed either for a pension or an increase, it will not be the fault of the Representative.

The members kept next to the old warriors, as is evidenced by the way they look after them. A great majority of the bills introduced at each session is for increase of pensions, and the Committee on Pensions is a hard-worked body of men.

Philadelphia's Gift.

From the Philadelphia Record.

A New Year's gift unique in the history of gang-ruled Philadelphia was made yesterday by County Commissioner Rudolph Blankenburg, "the war horse of reform," who presented his entire salary for the three years he has been in office, \$15,000, in equal parts to the police pension fund, the firemen's pension fund, and the teachers' annuity fund. To the board of city trusts he forwarded a certified check for the amount, and requested that the interest each year be turned over to the beneficiaries named, each worthy of full measure of public support.

World's Busiest Railway Station.

From the London Chronicle.

Which is the busiest railway station in the world? One would naturally expect to find it in the world's metropolis, but it is located in a city that has only a tenth of the population of London. Every day 25,000 passengers pass through the Finsbury street station in Melbourne, an own Liverpool street station, according to an Australian statistician, comes next, with 128,000.

Where They All Fall.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch